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**International Overdose Awareness Day event Aug. 31**

*Join Arapahoe County and Tri-County Health outside CentrePoint Plaza, Aurora*

713 people have died of overdoses due to opioids, including prescription painkillers and heroin, in the Tri-County area since 2012. However, the tragedy of overdose death is preventable.

International Overdose Awareness Day is an event to remember those who have died from fatal drug overdoses. On Aug. 31, people worldwide will stand alongside the friends and families of fatal overdose victims to reflect on those who have been lost and to focus on ways to prevent these needless deaths.

Tri-County Overdose Prevention Partnership (TCOPP), Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties, and other community partners are hosting a community event on August 31 to raise awareness about the opioid crisis, hear from members of Affected Friends and Family and Young People in Recovery, remember those we've lost and learn what is being done to address the crisis at the local level. August 31 is International Overdose Awareness Day, a global event held each year to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of a drug-related death.

**WHAT:** International Overdose Awareness Day

**WHEN:** 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., Friday, August 31

**WHERE:** Arapahoe County CentrePoint Plaza, 14980 E. Alameda Dr., Aurora, 80012. Outside entrance.

**WHO:** Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners: Jeff Baker, Kathleen Conti and Bill Holen; Adams County Commissioner Steve O'Dorisio; Douglas County Commissioner Lora Thomas; speakers from Affected Friends and Family and Young People in Recovery; resources from AllHealth Network, Aurora Mental Health Center and Signal Behavioral Health.

AllHealth Network and Aurora Mental Health Center will be providing Narcan training for interested attendees and free Narcan kits will be provided by these partners, as well as Signal Behavioral Health. Narcan, or Naloxone, can reverse and opioid overdose if administered in time and is available at pharmacies without a prescription. Staff also will be available to answer mental health and substance use questions, and connect people to community resources.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit [www.tchd.org/endoverdose](http://www.tchd.org/endoverdose).

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